

# Relationship between Conditional Diagnosability and 2-extra Connectivity of Symmetric Graphs\*

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## Abstract

The conditional diagnosability and the 2-extra connectivity are two important parameters to measure ability of diagnosing faulty processors and fault-tolerance in a multiprocessor system. The *conditional diagnosability*  $t_c(G)$  of  $G$  is the maximum number  $t$  for which  $G$  is conditionally  $t$ -diagnosable under the comparison model, while the *2-extra connectivity*  $\kappa_2(G)$  of a graph  $G$  is the minimum number  $k$  for which there is a vertex-cut  $F$  with  $|F| = k$  such that every component of  $G - F$  has at least 3 vertices. A quite natural problem is what is the relationship between the maximum and the minimum problem? This paper partially answer this problem by proving  $t_c(G) = \kappa_2(G)$  for a regular graph  $G$  with some acceptable conditions. As applications, the conditional diagnosability and the 2-extra connectivity are determined for some well-known classes of vertex-transitive graphs, including, star graphs,  $(n, k)$ -star graphs, alternating group networks,  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graphs, alternating group graphs, Cayley graphs obtained from transposition generating trees, bubble-sort graphs,  $k$ -ary  $n$ -cube networks and dual-cubes. Furthermore, many known results about these networks are obtained directly.

**Keywords** conditional diagnosability; comparison model; extra connectivity; symmetric graph; Cayley graph; max-min problem

## 1 Introduction

Throughout this paper, unless otherwise specified, a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is always assumed to be a simple and connected graph, where  $V = V(G)$  is the vertex-set and

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$E = E(G)$  is the edge-set of  $G$ . We follow [41] for terminologies and notations not defined here.

Two distinct vertices  $x$  and  $y$  in  $G$  is adjacent if  $xy \in E(G)$  and non-adjacent otherwise. If  $xy \in E(G)$ , then  $y$  (resp.  $x$ ) is a neighbor of  $x$  (resp.  $y$ ). The neighbor-set of  $x$  is denoted by  $N_G(x) = \{y \in V(G) : xy \in E(G)\}$ . For a subset  $X \subset V(G)$ , the notation  $G - X$  denotes the subgraph obtained from  $G$  by deleting all vertices in  $X$  and all edges incident with vertices in  $X$ , and let  $\overline{X} = V(G - X)$ .

It is well known that a topological structure of an interconnection network  $N$  can be modeled by a graph  $G = (V, E)$ , where  $V$  represents the set of components such as processors and  $E$  represents the set of communication links in  $N$  (see a text-book by Xu [42]). Faults of some processors and/or communication lines in a large-scale system are inevitable. People are concerned with how to diagnose faults and to determine fault tolerance of the system.

A vertex in a graph  $G$  is called a *fault-vertex* if it corresponds a faulty processor in the interconnection network  $N$  when it is modeled by  $G$ . A subset  $F \subseteq V(G)$  is called a *fault-set* if every vertex in  $F$  is a faulty vertex in  $G$ , and is *fault-free* if it contains no faulty vertex in  $G$ . A fault-set  $F$  is called a *conditional fault-set* if  $N_G(x) \not\subseteq F$  for any  $x \in \overline{F}$ . The pair  $(F_1, F_2)$  is called a *conditional fault-pair* if both  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  are conditional fault-sets.

The ability to identify all faulty processors in a multiprocessor system is known as system-level diagnosis. Several system-level self-diagnosis models have been proposed for a long time. One of the most important models is the *comparison diagnosis model*, shortly *comparison model*. Throughout this paper, we only consider the comparison model.

The comparison model was proposed by Malek and Maeng [35, 36]. A node can send a message to any two of its neighbors which then send replies back to the node. On receipt of these two replies, the node compares them and proclaims that at least one of the two neighbors is faulty if the replies are different or that both neighbors are fault-free if the replies are identical. However, if the node itself is faulty then no reliance can be placed on this proclamation. According as that the two outputs are identical or different, one gets the outcome to 0 or 1. The collection of all comparison results forms a syndrome, denoted by  $\sigma$ .

A subset  $F \subseteq V(G)$  is a *compatible fault-set* of a syndrome  $\sigma$  or  $\sigma$  is *compatible with*  $F$ , if  $\sigma$  can arise from the circumstance that  $F$  is a fault-set and  $\overline{F}$  is fault-free. Let  $\sigma_F = \{\sigma : \sigma \text{ is compatible with } F\}$ . A pair  $(F_1, F_2)$  of two distinct compatible fault-sets is *distinguishable* if and only if  $\sigma_{F_1} \cap \sigma_{F_2} = \emptyset$ , and  $(F_1, F_2)$  is

*indistinguishable* otherwise.

For a positive integer  $t$ , a graph  $G$  is *conditionally  $t$ -diagnosable* if every syndrome  $\sigma$  has a unique conditional compatible fault-set  $F$  with  $|F| \leq t$ . The *conditional diagnosability* of  $G$  under the comparison model, denoted by  $t_c(G)$  and proposed by Lai et al. [30], is the maximum number  $t$  for which  $G$  is conditionally  $t$ -diagnosable. The conditional diagnosability better reflects the self-diagnostic capability of networks under more practical assumptions, and has received much attention in recent years. The diagnosability of many interconnection networks have been determined, see, for example, [2, 3, 14–16, 20, 29, 40]. A survey on this field, from the earliest theoretical models to new promising applications, is referred to Duarte *et al.* [13].

A subset  $X \subset V(G)$  is called a *vertex-cut* if  $G - X$  is disconnected. A vertex-cut  $X$  is called a  $k$ -cut if  $|X| = k$ . The *connectivity*  $\kappa(G)$  of  $G$  is defined as the minimum number  $k$  for which  $G$  has a  $k$ -cut.

Fault-tolerance or reliability of a large-scale parallel system is often measured by the connectivity  $\kappa(G)$  of a corresponding graph  $G$ . However, the connectivity has an obvious deficiency because it tacitly assumes that all vertices adjacent to the same vertex of  $G$  could fail at the same time, but that is almost impossible in practical network applications. To compensate for this shortcoming, Fàbrega and Fiol [17] proposed the concept of the extra connectivity.

For a non-negative positive integer  $h$ , a vertex-cut  $X$  is called an  $R_h$ -*vertex-cut* if every component of  $G - X$  has at least  $h + 1$  vertices. For an arbitrary graph  $G$ ,  $R_h$ -vertex-cuts do not always exist for some  $h$ . For example, a cycle of order 5 contains no  $R_2$ -vertex-cut. A graph  $G$  is called an  $R_h$ -graph if it contains at least one  $R_h$ -vertex-cut. For an  $R_h$ -graph  $G$ , the  $h$ -extra connectivity of  $G$ , denoted by  $\kappa_h(G)$ , is defined as the minimum number  $k$  for which  $G$  contains an  $R_h$ -vertex-cut  $F$  with  $|F| = k$ . Clearly,  $\kappa_0(G) = \kappa(G)$ . Thus, the  $h$ -extra connectivity is a generalization of the classical connectivity and can provide more accurate measures regarding the fault-tolerance or reliability of a large-scale parallel system and therefore, it has received much attention (see Xu [42] for details). We are interested in the 2-extra connectivity of a graph in this paper.

Clearly, for a graph  $G$  there are two problems here, one is the maximizing problem – conditional diagnosability  $t_c(G)$ , and another is the minimizing problem – the 2-extra connectivity  $\kappa_2(G)$ . A quite natural problem is what is the relationship between the maximum and the minimum problems? In the current literature, people are still determining these two problems independently for some classes of graphs, such as alternating group network [47], alternating group graph [21, 45, 50], the 3-ary

$n$ -cube network [46].

In this paper, we reveal the relationships between the conditional diagnosability  $t_c(G)$  and the 2-extra connectivity  $\kappa_2(G)$  of a regular graph  $G$  with some acceptable conditions by establishing  $t_c(G) = \kappa_2(G)$ . As applications of our result, we consider some more general well-known classes of vertex-transitive graphs, such as star graphs,  $(n, k)$ -star graphs, alternating group networks,  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graphs, alternating group graphs, Cayley graphs obtained from transposition generating trees, bubble-sort graphs,  $k$ -ary  $n$ -cube networks and dual-cubes, and obtain the conditional diagnosability under the comparison model and the 2-extra connectivity of these graphs, which contain all known results on these graphs.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. Section 2 first recalls some necessary notations and lemmas, then establishes the relationship between the conditional diagnosability and the 2-extra connectivity of regular graphs with some conditions. As applications of our main result, Section 3 determines the conditional diagnosability and the 2-extra connectivity for some well-known classes of vertex-transitive graphs.

## 2 Main results

We first recall some terminologies and notation used in this paper. Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph, where  $V = V(G)$ ,  $E = E(G)$  and  $|V(G)|$  is the order of  $G$ .

A sequence  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  of  $n$  ( $\geq 3$ ) distinct vertices with  $x_i x_{i+1} \in E(G)$  for each  $i = 1, \dots, n-1$  is called an  $n$ -path, denoted by  $P_n$ , if  $x_1 x_n \notin E(G)$ , and called an  $n$ -cycle, denoted by  $C_n$ , if  $x_1 x_n \in E(G)$ . A cycle  $C$  in  $G$  is *chordless* if any two non-adjacent vertices of  $C$  are non-adjacent in  $G$ .

For  $X \subset V(G)$ , let  $N_G(X) = (\cup_{x \in X} N_G(x)) \setminus X$ . For simplicity of writing, in case of no confusion from the context, we write  $N(x)$  for  $N_G(x)$ ; moreover, if  $X$  is a subgraph of  $G$ , we write  $N(X)$  for  $N_G(V(X))$  in this paper. For two non-adjacent vertices  $x$  and  $y$  in  $G$ , let  $\ell(x, y) = |N(x) \cap N(y)|$ , and let  $\ell(G) = \max\{\ell(x, y) : x, y \in V(G) \text{ and } xy \notin E(G)\}$ .

The degree  $d(x)$  of a vertex  $x$  is the number of neighbors of  $x$ , i.e.,  $d(x) = |N(x)|$ . The minimum degree  $\delta(G) = \min\{d(x) : x \in V(G)\}$  and the maximum degree  $\Delta(G) = \max\{d(x) : x \in V(G)\}$ . A vertex  $x$  is an *isolated vertex* if  $d(x) = 0$ , an edge  $xy$  is an *isolated edge* if  $d(x) = d(y) = 1$ . A graph  $G$  is  $k$ -regular if  $\delta(G) = \Delta(G) = k$ .  $K_n$  denotes a complete graph of order  $n$ , which is an  $(n-1)$ -regular graph. For a subgraph  $H$  of  $G$ , we will use  $\Sigma(H)$  to denote  $\Sigma_{x \in H} d_H(x)$ . For example, if  $P_3$  and

$C_3$  are subgraphs of  $G$ , then  $\Sigma(P_3) = 4$  and  $\Sigma(C_3) = 6$ .

Let  $X \subset V(G)$  be a vertex-cut. The maximal connected subgraphs of  $G - X$  are called *components*. A component is *small* if it is an isolated vertex or an isolated edge; is *large* otherwise.

In this section, we present our main theorem, which explores the close relationship between the conditional diagnosability  $t_c(G)$  and the 2-extra connectivity  $\kappa_2(G)$  of a regular graph  $G$  under some conditions, that is,  $t_c(G) = \kappa_2(G)$ . The following three lemmas play a key role in the proof of our theorem.

**Lemma 2.1** [39] *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph,  $F_1, F_2 \subseteq V(G)$ ,  $F_1 \neq F_2$ . Then, under the comparison model,  $(F_1, F_2)$  is a distinguishable pair if and only if one of the following conditions is satisfied (see Fig. 1).*

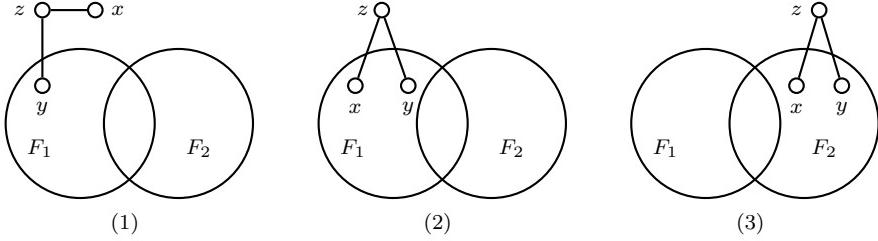


Figure 1: Illustrations of Lemma 2.1

- (a) There exists  $x, z \in \overline{F_1 \cup F_2}$  and  $y \in (F_1 \cup F_2) \setminus (F_1 \cap F_2)$  such that  $xz, yz \in E(G)$ ;
- (b) There exists  $z \in \overline{F_1 \cup F_2}$  and  $x, y \in F_1 \setminus F_2$  such that  $xz, yz \in E(G)$ ;
- (c) There exists  $z \in \overline{F_1 \cup F_2}$  and  $x, y \in F_2 \setminus F_1$  such that  $xz, yz \in E(G)$ .

**Lemma 2.2** [39] *A graph  $G$  is conditionally  $t$ -diagnosable if and only if, for any two distinct conditional fault-sets  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  with  $\max\{|F_1|, |F_2|\} \leq t$ ,  $(F_1, F_2)$  is a distinguishable pair.*

**Lemma 2.3** [6] *Let  $G = (V, E)$  be a graph with maximum degree  $\Delta$  and minimum degree  $\delta \geq 3$ . If there is some integer  $t$  such that*

- (a)  $|V| > (\Delta + 1)(t - 1) + 4$ ,<sup>1</sup>
  - (b) *for any  $F \subset V(G)$  with  $|F| \leq t - 1$ ,  $G - F$  has a large component and small components (if exist) which contain at most two vertices in total.*
- then  $t_c(G) \geq t$ .*

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<sup>1</sup>This lower bound on  $|V|$  given here is quite enough for the conclusion. The original article claims  $|V| > (\Delta + 2)(t - 1) + 4$ .

**Theorem 2.4** Let  $G$  be an  $n$ -regular  $R_2$ -graph and  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T \text{ is a 3-path or a 3-cycle in } G\}$ . If  $G$  satisfies the following conditions

- (a) for any  $F \subset V(G)$  with  $|F| \leq t - 1$ ,  $G - F$  has a large component and small components which contain at most two vertices in total,
  - (b)  $n \geq 2\ell(G) + 2$  if  $G$  contains no 5-cycle, and  $n \geq 3\ell(G) + 2$  otherwise,
  - (c)  $|V(G)| > (n + 1)(t - 1) + 4$ ,
- then  $t_c(G) = t = \kappa_2(G)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $T = P_3$  or  $C_3$  (if exists) in  $G$  such that  $|N(T)| = t$ . The condition (c) implies that  $N(T)$  is a vertex-cut of  $G$ .

Suppose that  $N(T)$  is not an  $R_2$ -vertex-cut of  $G$ . Then  $G - N(T)$  contains a small component  $C$  which contains at most two vertices.

If  $C$  is an isolated vertex, say  $x$ , then  $x$  shares at most  $\ell(G)$  common neighbors with any of three vertices in  $T$ . Thus,  $n = |N(x) \cap N(T)| \leq \min\{3\ell(G), n\}$ , which implies  $n \leq 3\ell(G)$ , a contradiction with the hypothesis (b) that  $n \geq 3\ell(G) + 2$ . Moreover, if  $G$  contains no 5-cycle, then  $x$  shares at most  $\ell(G)$  common neighbors with each of at most two vertices in  $T$ , and so  $n = |N(x) \cap N(T)| \leq \min\{2\ell(G), n\}$ , which implies  $n \leq 2\ell(G)$ , a contradiction with the hypothesis (b) that  $n \geq 2\ell(G) + 2$ .

If  $C$  is an isolated edge, say  $xy$ , then at most  $(n - 1)$  neighbors of  $x$  are in  $N(T)$ . In the same discussion above, we have that  $n - 1 = |N(x) \cap N(T)| \leq \min\{3\ell(G), n - 1\}$ , which implies  $n \leq 3\ell(G) + 1$ ; and if  $G$  contains no 5-cycle, then  $n - 1 = |N(x) \cap N(T)| \leq \min\{2\ell(G), n - 1\}$ , which implies  $n \leq 2\ell(G) + 1$ . These contradict with the condition (b). Hence,  $N(T)$  is an  $R_2$ -vertex-cut of  $G$ , and so  $\kappa_2(G) \leq |N(T)| = t$ .

On the other hand, since  $G$  is an  $R_2$ -graph, there is an  $R_2$ -vertex-cut  $F$  of  $G$  such that  $|F| = \kappa_2(G)$ . Clearly,  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $G$ . By the condition (a), if  $|F| \leq t - 1$ , then  $G - F$  certainly contains a small component  $C$  with  $|V(C)| \leq 2$ , which contradicts the assumption that  $F$  is an  $R_2$ -vertex-cut, and so  $\kappa_2(G) = |F| \geq t$ . Thus,  $\kappa_2(G) = t$ .

We now prove  $t_c(G) = t$ . The conditions (a) and (c) satisfy two conditions in Lemma 2.3, and so  $t_c(G) \geq t$ .

On the other hand, let  $T = \{x, z, y\}$  with  $xz, yz \in E(G)$  such that  $|N(T)| = t$ . By the above discussion,  $N(T)$  is an  $R_2$ -vertex-cut of  $G$ . Let  $F_1 = N(T) \cup \{x\}$  and  $F_2 = N(T) \cup \{y\}$ . Then  $F_1 \neq F_2$  and  $|F_1| = |F_2| = t + 1$ . If there is a vertex  $u \in \overline{F_1}$  such that  $N(u) \subseteq F_1$ , then  $u \notin \{y, z\}$  clearly, and so  $u$  is in  $G - N[T]$ . Since  $u$  is not adjacent to  $x$ ,  $u$  is an isolated vertex in  $G - N(T)$ , which implies that  $N(T)$  is not an

$R_2$ -vertex-cut, a contradiction. Therefore,  $F_1$  is a conditional fault-set. Similarly,  $F_2$  is also a conditional fault-set. Note that  $(F_1 \cup F_2) \setminus (F_1 \cap F_2) = \{x, y\}$ ,  $F_1 \setminus F_2 = \{x\}$  and  $F_2 \setminus F_1 = \{y\}$ . It is easy to verify that  $F_1$  and  $F_2$  satisfy none of conditions in Lemma 2.1, and so  $(F_1, F_2)$  is an indistinguishable pair. By Lemma 2.2,  $G$  is not conditionally  $(t+1)$ -diagnosable, which implies  $t_c(G) \leq t$ . Thus,  $t_c(G) = t$ .

It follows that  $t_c(G) = t = \kappa_2(G)$ . The theorem follows.  $\blacksquare$

### 3 Applications to Some Well-known Networks

As applications of Theorem 2.4, in this section, we determine the conditional diagnosability and 2-extra connectivity for some well-known vertex-transitive graphs, which, due to their high symmetry, frequently appear in the literature on designs and analyses of interconnection networks, including star graphs, alternating group networks, alternating group graphs, bubble-sort graphs,  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graphs,  $(n, k)$ -star graphs, a class of Cayley graphs obtained from transposition generating trees,  $k$ -ary  $n$ -cube networks and dual-cubes as well.

#### 3.1 Preliminary on Groups and Cayley Graphs

We first simply recall some basic concepts on groups and the definition of Cayley graphs, and introduce two classes of Cayley graphs based on the alternating group, alternating group networks and alternating group graphs.

Denote by  $\Omega_n$  the group of all permutations on  $I_n = \{1, \dots, n\}$ . For convenience, we use  $p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n$  to denote the permutation  $\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 2 & \cdots & n \\ p_1 p_2 \cdots p_n \end{smallmatrix}$ . A *transposition* is a permutation that exchanges two elements and leaves the rest unaltered. A transposition that exchanges  $i$  and  $j$  is denoted by  $(i, j)$ .

It is well known that any permutation can be expressed as multiplications of a series of transpositions with operation sequence from left to right. In particular, a 3-cycle  $(a, b, c)$  is always expressed as  $(a, b, c) = (a, b)(a, c)$ . For example,  $(1, 2, 4) = (1, 2)(1, 4)$ .

A permutation is called *even* if it can be expressed as a composition of even transpositions, and *odd* otherwise. There are  $n!/2$  even permutations in  $\Omega_n$ , which form a subgroup of  $\Omega_n$ , called the *alternating group* and denoted by  $\Gamma_n$ , the generating set to be a set of 3-cycles.

An automorphism of a graph  $G$  is a permutation on  $V(G)$  that preserves adjacency. All automorphisms of  $G$  form a group, denoted by  $\text{Aut}(G)$ , and referred to as the automorphism group. A graph  $G$  is *vertex-transitive* if for any two vertices

$x$  and  $y$  in  $G$  there is a  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$  such that  $y = \sigma(x)$ . A vertex-transitive graph is necessarily regular. A graph  $G$  is *edge-transitive* if for any two edges  $a = xy$  and  $b = uv$  of  $G$  there is a  $\sigma \in \text{Aut}(G)$  such that  $\{u, v\} = \{\sigma(x), \sigma(y)\}$ . A graph is *symmetric* if it is vertex-transitive and edge-transitive.

For a finite group  $\Gamma$  with the identity  $e$  and a non-empty subset  $S$  of  $\Gamma$  such that  $e \notin S$  and  $S = S^{-1}$ , define a graph  $G$  as follows.

$$V(G) = \Gamma; \quad xy \in E(G) \Leftrightarrow x^{-1}y \in S \text{ for any } x, y \in \Gamma.$$

In other words,  $xy \in E(G)$  if and only if there exists  $s \in S$  such that  $y = xs$ . Such a graph  $G$  is called the *Cayley graph* on  $\Gamma$  with respect to  $S$ , denoted by  $C_\Gamma(S)$ . A Cayley graph is  $|S|$ -regular, and is connected if and only if  $S$  generates  $\Gamma$ . Moreover, A Cayley graph is  $|S|$ -connected if  $S$  is a minimal generating set of  $\Gamma$ .

A Cayley graph is always vertex-transitive and, thus, becomes an important topological structure of interconnection networks and has attracted considerable attention in the literature [22, 31].

As examples, we recall two well-known classes of Cayley graphs on the alternating group  $\Gamma_n$  with respect to some  $S$ .

### 1. Alternating Group Networks

For  $n \geq 3$ , let  $S = \{(1, 2)(1, 3), (1, 3)(1, 2), (1, 2)(3, i) : 4 \leq i \leq n\}$ , where  $(1, 2)(1, 3)$  and  $(1, 3)(1, 2)$  are mutually inverse,  $(1, 2)(3, i)$  is self-inverse for each  $i = 4, \dots, n$ , and so  $S = S^{-1}$ . The Cayley graph  $C_{\Gamma_n}(S)$  is called the *alternating group network*, proposed by Ji [27] in 1999 and denoted by  $AN_n$ , which is  $(n - 1)$  regular and  $(n - 1)$ -connected. The alternating group networks  $AN_3$  and  $AN_4$  are shown in Fig. 2.

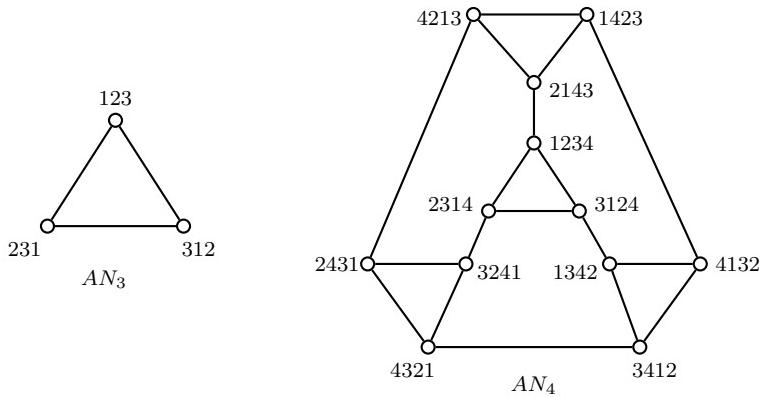


Figure 2: Alternating group networks  $AN_3$  and  $AN_4$

Zhou and Xiao [50] determined  $t_c(AN_n) = 3n - 9$  for  $n \geq 5$  and Zhou [47] determined  $\kappa_2(AN_n) = 3n - 9$  for  $n \geq 4$ . Thus,  $t_c(AN_n) = 3n - 9 = \kappa_2(AN_n)$  for  $n \geq 5$

## 2. Alternating Group Graphs

For  $n \geq 3$ , let  $S = \{(1, 2)(1, i), (1, i)(1, 2) : 3 \leq i \leq n\}$ , where  $(1, 2)(1, i)$  and  $(1, i)(1, 2)$  are mutually inverse for each  $i = 3, \dots, n$ , and so  $S = S^{-1}$ . The Cayley graph  $C_{\Gamma_n}(S)$  is called the *alternating group graph*, proposed by Jwo *et al.* [28] in 1993 and denoted by  $AG_n$ , which is  $(2n - 4)$ -regular and  $(2n - 4)$ -connected.  $AG_3$  and  $AG_4$  are shown in Fig. 3.

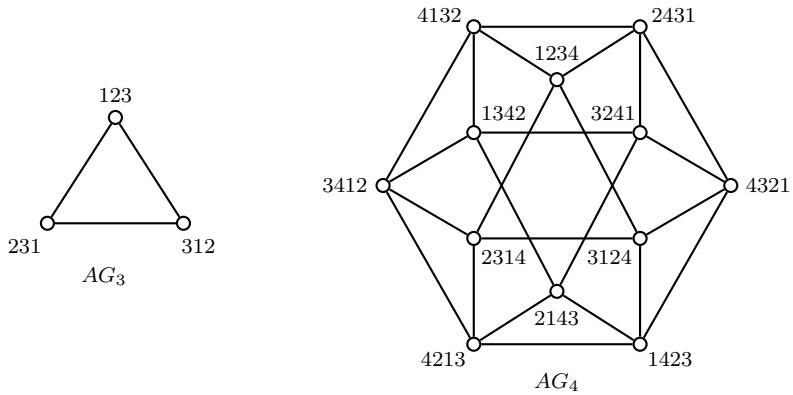


Figure 3: Alternating group graphs  $AG_3$  and  $AG_4$

It is known that  $\kappa_2(AG_n) = 6n - 19$  for  $n \geq 5$  determined by Lin *et al.* [34] and  $t_c(AG_4) = 4$  and  $t_c(AG_n) = 6n - 19$  for  $n \geq 6$  obtained by Zhou and Xu [51], and Hao *et al.* [20], in which “ $t_c(AG_n) = 6n - 18$ ” is a slip of the pen. Thus,  $t_c(AG_n) = 6n - 19 = \kappa_2(AG_n)$  for  $n \geq 6$ .

## 3.2 Star Graphs

Let  $\Omega_n$  be the symmetry group and  $S = \{(1, i) : 2 \leq i \leq n\}$ . The Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  is called a star graph, denoted by  $S_n$ , proposed by Akers and Krishnamurthy [1] in 1989. The graphs shown in Figure 4 are  $S_2$ ,  $S_3$  and  $S_4$ .

A star graph  $S_n$  is  $(n - 1)$ -regular and  $(n - 1)$ -connected. Furthermore, since a transposition changes the parity of a permutation, each edge connects an odd permutation with an even permutation, and so  $S_n$  is bipartite, and contains no  $C_4$ . A star graph is not only vertex-transitive but also edge-transitive [1], and so is symmetric.

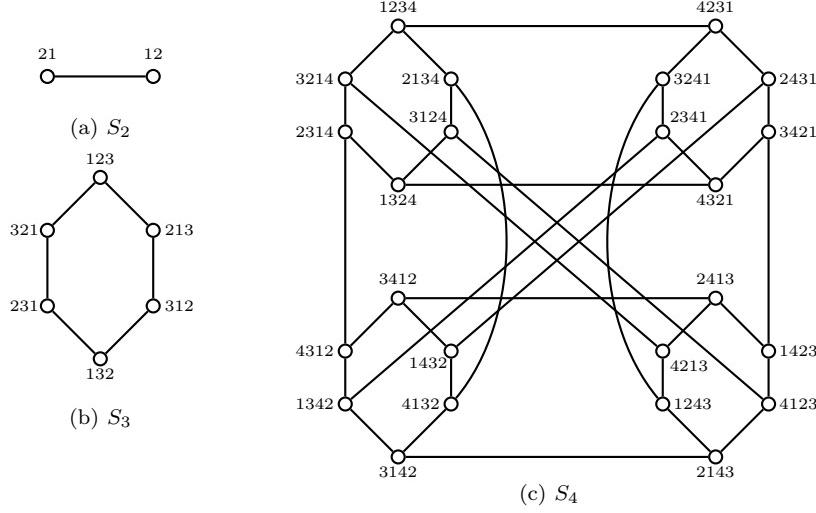


Figure 4: The star graphs  $S_2, S_3$  and  $S_4$

**Lemma 3.1** *For any  $x, y \in V(S_n)$ , if  $xy \notin E(S_n)$  and  $N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = 1$ .*

Since  $S_n$  is  $(n - 1)$ -regular and contains no  $C_3$ , according to Lemma 3.1, if  $P_3 = (x, y, z)$  is a 3-path, where  $xz \notin E(G)$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = |N(y) \cap N(z)| = 0$  and  $N(x) \cap N(z) = \{y\}$ , and so the number of neighbors of  $P_3$  in  $S_n$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(P_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - |N(x) \cap N(y)| - |N(y) \cap N(z)| - \Sigma(P_3) \\ &= 3(n - 1) - 4 = 3n - 7. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $S_n$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-path  $P_3$  in  $S_n$ , we have that

$$|N(P_3)| = 3(n - 1) - 4 = 3n - 7. \quad (1)$$

**Lemma 3.2** (Cheng and Lipták [5]) *Let  $F \subset V(S_n)$  with  $|F| \leq 3n - 8$  and  $n \geq 5$ . If  $S_n - F$  is disconnected, then it has either two components, one of which is an isolated vertex or an edge, or three components, two of which are isolated vertices.*

Lin *et al.* [33], Zhou and Xu [51] determined  $t_c(S_n) = 3n - 7$  for  $n \geq 4$ . However,  $\kappa_2(S_n)$  has not been determined so far. We can deduce these results by Theorem 2.4.

**Theorem 3.3**  $t_c(S_n) = 3n - 7 = \kappa_2(S_n)$  for  $n \geq 5$ .

**Proof.** Since  $S_n$  contains no  $C_3$ ,  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T = P_3 \text{ or } C_3 \text{ in } S_n\} = |N(P_3)|$ , where  $P_3$  is any 3-path in  $S_n$  since  $S_n$  is vertex-transitive. Let  $F = N(P_3)$ . Then  $|F| = t = 3n - 7$  by (1). It is easy to check that  $|V(S_n)| - |F| - 3 = n! - 3n + 4 > 0$

for  $n \geq 4$ . Thus  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $S_n$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $S_n$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

- (a) If  $|F| \leq t - 1$  then, by Lemma 3.2,  $S_n - F$  has a large component and small components which contain at most two vertices in total.
- (b) By Lemma 3.1,  $\ell(S_n) = 1$ . Since  $S_n$  is  $(n - 1)$ -regular bipartite, it contains no 5-cycle, and so  $n - 1 \geq 4 = 2\ell(S_n) + 2$ .
- (c) When  $n \geq 4$ , it is easy to check that

$$\begin{aligned} n! - n(t - 1) - 4 &= n! - n(3n - 8) - 4 \\ &\geq 4(n - 1)(n - 2) - 3n^2 + 8n - 4 \\ &= (n - 2)^2 \\ &> 0. \end{aligned}$$

$S_n$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(S_n) = 3n - 7 = \kappa_2(S_n)$ . ■

The star graph  $S_n$  is an important topological structure of interconnection networks and has attracted considerable attention since it has been thought to be an attractive alternative to the hypercube. However, since  $S_n$  has  $n!$  vertices, there is a large gap between  $n!$  and  $(n+1)!$  for expanding  $S_n$  to  $S_{n+1}$ . To relax the restriction of the numbers of vertices in  $S_n$ , the arrangement graph  $A_{n,k}$  and the  $(n, k)$ -star graph  $S_{n,k}$  were proposed as generalizations of the star graph  $S_n$ . In the following two sections, we discuss such two classes of graphs, respectively.

For this purpose, we need some notations. Given two positive integers  $n$  and  $k$  with  $k < n$ , let  $P_{n,k}$  be a set of arrangements of  $k$  elements in  $I_n$ , i.e.,  $P_{n,k} = \{p_1 p_2 \dots p_k : p_i \in I_n, p_i \neq p_j, 1 \leq i \neq j \leq k\}$ . Clearly,  $|P_{n,k}| = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ .

### 3.3 Arrangement Graphs

The  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graph, denoted by  $A_{n,k}$ , was proposed by Day and Tripathi [12] in 1992. The definition of  $A_{n,k}$  is as follows.  $A_{n,k}$  has vertex-set  $P_{n,k}$  and two vertices are adjacent if and only if they differ in exactly one position.

Figure 5 shows a  $(4, 2)$ -arrangement graph  $A_{4,2}$ , which is isomorphic to  $AG_4$  (see Fig. 3).

Since  $|P_{n,k}| = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$  and  $|S| = k(n - k)$ ,  $A_{n,k}$  is a  $k(n - k)$ -regular graph with order  $\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ , and is  $k(n - k)$ -connected since  $S$  is a minimal generating set of  $\Gamma_n$ . Moreover,  $A_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive and edge-transitive (see [12]), and so  $A_{n,k}$  is symmetric. Clearly,  $A_{n,1} \cong K_n$  and  $A_{n,n-1} \cong S_n$ . Chiang and Chen [10] showed that  $A_{n,n-2} \cong AG_n$ . Thus, the  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graph  $A_{n,k}$  is naturally regarded as a common generalization of the star graph  $S_n$  and the alternating group graph

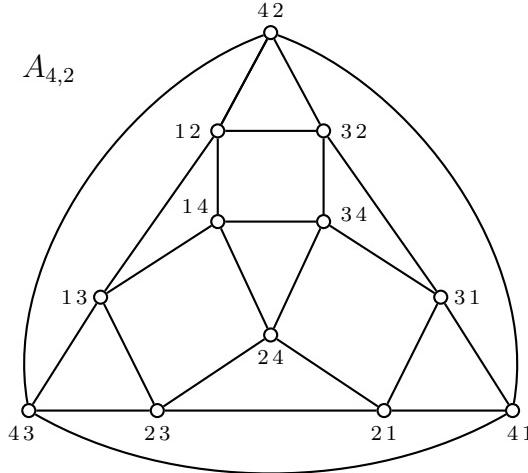


Figure 5: The structure of a  $(4, 2)$ -arrangement graph  $A_{4,2}$

$AG_n$ . For a fixed  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ), let

$$V_i = \{p_1 \cdots p_{i-1} q_i p_{i+1} \cdots p_k : q_i \in I_n \setminus \{p_1, \dots, p_{i-1}, p_{i+1}, \dots, p_k\}\}$$

Then  $|V_i| = n - k + 1$ . There are  $|P_{n,k-1}|$  such  $V_i$ 's. By definition, it is easy to see that the subgraph of  $A_{n,k}$  induced by  $V_i$  is a complete graph  $K_{n-k+1}$ . In special,  $K_{n-k+1} = K_n$  if  $k = 1$ , and  $K_{n-k+1} = K_2$  if  $k = n - 1$ .

When  $n = k + 1$ ,  $A_{n,k}$  contains no 3-cycle  $C_3$ , there is a big difference in the way of dealing it with other conditions. Since  $A_{n,n-1} \cong S_n$ , which has been discussed in the above subsection, to avoid duplication of discussion, we may assume  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k \geq 2$  in the following discussion.

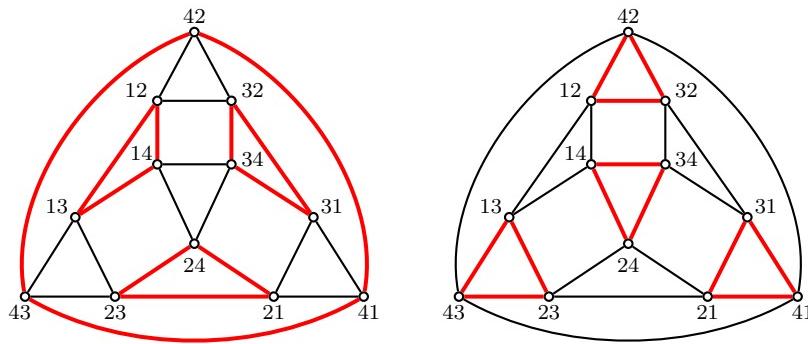


Figure 6: Two partitions of  $A_{4,2}$  into 4 triangles  $K_3$  (red edges)

Thus, when  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k \geq 2$ , for each fixed  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ), the vertex-set of  $A_{n,k}$  can be partitioned into  $|P_{n,k-1}|$  subsets, each of which induces a complete graph  $K_{n-k+1}$ . For example, for  $n = 4$  and  $k = 2$ ,  $|P_{4,1}| = 4$ . Fig. 6 illustrates

two partitions of  $V(A_{4,2})$  into 4 subsets for each  $i = 1, 2$ , each of which induces a complete graph  $K_3$  (red edges). This fact and the arbitrariness of  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq k$ ) show that each vertex is contained in  $k$  distinct  $K_{n-k+1}$ 's, and each edge is contained in  $(n-k-1)$  distinct 3-cycles, that is, any two adjacent vertices have exactly  $(n-k-1)$  common neighbors.

Furthermore, each edge of  $A_{n,k}$  is contained in  $(k-1)$  chordless 4-cycles when  $n \geq k+2$  and  $k \geq 2$ . In fact, let  $p, q \in E(A_{n,k})$ , if  $p = p_1 \cdots p_{i-1} p_i p_{i+1} \cdots p_k$ , then  $q = p_1 \cdots p_{i-1} q_i p_{i+1} \cdots p_k$ , where  $q_i \in I_n \setminus \{p_1, \dots, p_k\}$ . For each  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $j \neq i$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} x_j &= p_1 \cdots p_{i-1} q_i p_{i+1} \cdots p_{j-1} t_j p_{j+1} \cdots p_k \quad \text{and} \\ y_j &= p_1 \cdots p_{i-1} p_i p_{i+1} \cdots p_{j-1} t_j p_{j+1} \cdots p_k, \end{aligned}$$

where  $t_j \in I_n \setminus \{p_1, \dots, p_k, q_i\}$ , such  $t_j$  certainly exists since  $n \geq k+2$  and  $k \geq 2$ . Then,  $(p, q, x_j, y_j)$  is a chordless 4-cycle in  $A_{n,k}$  for each  $j \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  and  $j \neq i$  (see Fig. 7).

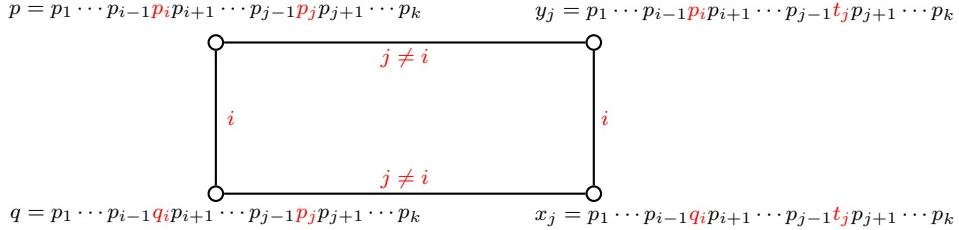


Figure 7: Construction of a chordless 4-cycle containing a given edge  $pq$  in  $A_{n,k}$

According to the above discussion, we have the following result.

**Lemma 3.4** *When  $n \geq k+2$ , for any  $x, y \in V(A_{n,k})$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = n-k-1$  if  $xy \in E(A_{n,k})$ ;  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| \leq 2$  if  $xy \notin E(A_{n,k})$  and  $N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset$ ; and  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = 0$  otherwise.*

Since each edge is contained in a  $K_{n-k+1}$  ( $n \geq k+2$ ), for a 3-cycle  $C_3 = (x, y, z)$ , every vertex in  $V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)$  is a common neighbor of the three edges  $xy, yz, zx$ . In other words, when we count the number  $|N(C_3)|$  of neighbors of  $C_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$ , every vertex in  $V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)$  is counted three times. Thus, the number  $|N(C_3)|$  of neighbors of  $C_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(C_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - 2|V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)| - \Sigma(C_3) \\ &= 3k(n-k) - 2(n-k-2) - 6 \\ &= (3k-2)(n-k) - 2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-cycle  $C_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$ , we have that

$$|N(C_3)| = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 2. \quad (2)$$

Since  $A_{n,k}$  contains chordless 4-cycle, say  $(x, y, z, u)$ , we choose a 3-path  $P_3 = (x, y, z)$ . Then  $xz \notin E(A_{n,k})$ . Since each edge is contained in a  $K_{n-k+1}$ ,  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = |N(y) \cap N(z)| = n - k - 1$  and  $|N(z) \cap N(x)| = |\{y, u\}| = 2$  by Lemma 3.4. Note that two edge  $xy$  and  $yz$  are in different complete graphs. Thus, the number of neighbors of  $P_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(P_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - |N(x) \cap N(y)| \\ &\quad - |N(y) \cap N(z)| - |N(z) \cap N(x) \setminus \{y\}| - \Sigma(P_3) \\ &= 3k(n - k) - 2(n - k - 1) - 1 - 4 \\ &= (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3 \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-path  $P_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$ , we have that

$$|N(P_3)| = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3 \quad (3)$$

**Lemma 3.5** [51] *Let  $F$  be a vertex-cut of  $A_{n,k}$  with  $|F| \leq (3k - 2)(n - k) - 4$ . If  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k \geq 4$ , then  $A_{n,k} - F$  contains either two components, one of which is an isolated vertex or an isolated edge, or three components, two of which are isolated vertices.*

Zhou and Xu [51] determined that for  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k \geq 4$ ,  $t_c(A_{n,k}) = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3$ . However,  $\kappa_2(A_{n,k})$  has not been determined. We can deduce these results by Theorem 2.4.

**Theorem 3.6**  $t_c(A_{n,k}) = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3 = \kappa_2(A_{n,k})$  for  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k(n - k) \geq 8$ .

**Proof.** Comparing (2) with (3), when  $n \geq k + 2$ ,  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T = P_3 \text{ or } C_3 \text{ in } A_{n,k}\} = |N(P_3)|$ , where  $P_3$  is any 3-path in  $A_{n,k}$  since  $A_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive. Let  $F = N(P_3)$ . Then  $|F| = t = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3$  by (3). It is easy to check that  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $A_{n,k}$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $A_{n,k}$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

(a) If  $|F| \leq t - 1$  then, by Lemma 3.5,  $A_{n,k} - F$  has a large component and small components which contain at most two vertices in total.

(b) By Lemma 3.4,  $\ell(A_{n,k}) = 2$ , and so  $k(n - k) \geq 8 = 3\ell(A_{n,k}) + 2$ .

(c) It is not difficult to check that

$$\begin{aligned}
& |V| - [(\Delta + 1)(t - 1) + 4] \\
&= |V| - (k(n - k) + 1)((3k - 2)(n - k) - 4) - 4 \\
&= |V| - 3k^2(n - k)^2 + 2k(n - k)^2 + (k + 2)(n - k) \\
&> |V| - 3k^2(n - k)^2 \quad (\text{for } n - k \geq 2) \\
&\geq |V| - 3(n - 2)^2(n - k + 1)^2 \quad (\text{for } k \leq n - 2) \\
&= n!/(n - k)! - 3(n - 2)^2(n - k + 1)^2 \\
&= n(n - 1) \cdots (n - k + 1) - 3(n - 2)^2(n - k + 1)^2 \\
&> 3(n - 2)^2(n - k + 1)^2 - 3(n - 2)^2(n - k + 1)^2 \\
&= 0.
\end{aligned}$$

$A_{n,k}$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(A_{n,k}) = (3k - 2)(n - k) - 3 = \kappa_2(A_{n,k})$ .  $\blacksquare$

Since  $A_{n,n-2} \cong AG_n$ , by Theorem 3.6, we immediately obtain the following results.

**Corollary 3.7**  $t_c(AG_n) = 6n - 19 = \kappa_2(AG_n)$  for  $n \geq 6$ .

### 3.4 $(n, k)$ -Star Graphs

The  $(n, k)$ -star graph  $S_{n,k}$ , proposed by Chiang *et al.* [9] in 1995 as another generalization of the star graph  $S_n$ , has vertex-set  $P_{n,k}$ , a vertex  $p = p_1p_2 \dots p_i \dots p_k$  is adjacent to a vertex

- (a)  $p_ip_2 \cdots p_{i-1}p_1p_{i+1} \cdots p_k$ , where  $i \in \{2, 3, \dots, k\}$  (swap-edge).
- (b)  $p'_1p_2p_3 \cdots p_k$ , where  $p'_1 \in I_n \setminus \{p_i : i \in I_k\}$  (unswap-edge).

Figure 8 shows two  $(n, k)$ -star graphs  $S_{4,3}$  and  $S_{4,2}$ , where  $S_{4,3} \cong S_4$  and  $S_{4,2} \cong AN_4$ .

Since  $|P_{n,k}| = \frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$  and  $|S| = n - 1$ ,  $S_{n,k}$  is an  $(n - 1)$ -regular and  $(n - 1)$ -connected graph with order  $\frac{n!}{(n-k)!}$ . Moreover,  $S_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive, however, it is not edge-transitive if  $n \geq k + 2$  (see Chiang *et al.* [9]).

By definition,  $S_{n,1} \cong K_n$  and  $S_{n,n-1} \cong S_n$  obviously. Moreover, Cheng *et al.* [8] showed  $S_{n,n-2} \cong AN_n$ . Thus, the  $(n, k)$ -star graph  $S_{n,k}$  is naturally regarded as a common generalization of the star graph  $S_n$  and the alternating group network  $AN_n$ .

For any  $\alpha = p_2p_3 \cdots p_k \in P_{n,k-1}$  ( $2 \leq k \leq n$ ), let

$$V_\alpha = \{p_1\alpha : p_1 \in I_n \setminus \{p_i : 2 \leq i \leq k\}\}.$$

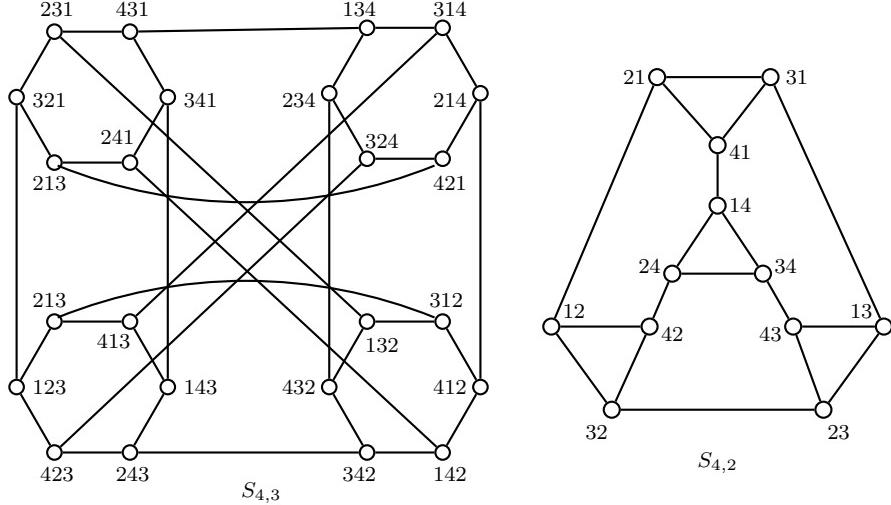


Figure 8: Two  $(n, k)$ -star graphs  $S_{4,3}$  and  $S_{4,2}$

By definition, it is easy to see that the subgraph of  $S_{n,k}$  induced by  $V_\alpha$  is a complete graph  $K_{n-k+1}$ . Thus,  $V(S_{n,k})$  can be partitioned into  $|P_{n,k-1}|$  subsets, each of which induces a complete graph  $K_{n-k+1}$  whose edges are unswap-edges. Furthermore, there is at most one swap-edge between any two complete graphs, and so  $S_{n,k}$  contains neither 4-cycle nor 5-cycle.

**Lemma 3.8** [32] *For any  $x, y \in V(S_{n,k})$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = n - k - 1$  if  $xy \in E(S_{n,k})$  is an unswap-edge,  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = 1$  if  $xy \notin E(S_{n,k})$  and  $N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset$ , and  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = 0$  otherwise.*

Since  $K_{n-k+1} = K_n$  when  $k = 1$  and  $K_{n-k+1} = K_2$  when  $k = n - 1$ , like  $A_{n,k}$ , to avoid duplication of discussion, we may assume  $n \geq k + 2$  and  $k \geq 2$  in the following discussion.

For a 3-cycle  $C_3 = (x, y, z)$ , since it is contained in a complete graph  $K_{n-k+1}$ , every vertex in  $V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)$  is a common neighbor of the tree edges  $xy, yz, zx$ . In other words, when we count the number of neighbors of  $C_3$  in  $S_{n,k}$ , every vertex in  $V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)$  is counted three times. Thus, the number of neighbors of  $C_3$  in  $S_{n,k}$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(C_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - 2|V(K_{n-k+1} - C_3)| - \Sigma(C_3) \\ &= 3(n - 1) - 2(n - k - 2) - 6 \\ &= n + 2k - 5. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $S_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-cycle  $C_3$  in  $S_{n,k}$ , we have that

$$|N(C_3)| = n + 2k - 5. \quad (4)$$

For a 3-path  $P_3 = (x, y, z)$  with  $xz \notin E(S_{n,k})$ , then one of two edges  $xy$  and  $yz$  is an unswap-edge and another is a swap-edge. Without loss of generality, suppose that  $xy$  is an unswap-edge and  $yz$  is a swap-edge. Then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = n - k - 1$ ,  $|N(y) \cap N(z)| = 0$  and  $|N(z) \cap N(x)| = |\{y\}| = 1$  by Lemma 3.8. Thus, the number of neighbors of  $C_3$  in  $A_{n,k}$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(P_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - |N(x) \cap N(y)| \\ &\quad - |N(y) \cap N(z)| - |N(z) \cap N(x) \setminus \{y\}| - \Sigma(P_3) \\ &= 3(n-1) - (n-k-1) - 0 - 4 \\ &= 2n + k - 6. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $S_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-path  $P_3$  in  $S_{n,k}$ , we have that

$$|N(P_3)| = 2n + k - 6. \quad (5)$$

**Lemma 3.9** [48] *Let  $F$  be a vertex-cut of  $S_{n,k}$  ( $n \geq k+2$  and  $k \geq 3$ ) with  $|F| \leq n+2k-6$ . Then  $S_{n,k} - F$  contains either two components, one of which is an isolated vertex or an isolated edge, or three components, two of which are both isolated vertices.*

Zhou [48] determined that  $t_c(S_{n,k}) = n+2k-5$  if  $n \geq k+2$  and  $k \geq 3$ . However,  $\kappa_2(S_{n,k})$  has not been determined. We can deduce these results by Theorem 2.4.

**Theorem 3.10**  $t_c(S_{n,k}) = n+2k-5 = \kappa_2(S_{n,k})$  if  $n \geq k+2$  and  $k \geq 3$ .

**Proof.** Let  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T = P_3 \text{ or } C_3 \text{ in } S_{n,k}\}$ . By Lemma 3.8,  $S_{n,k}$  contains 3-cycles when  $n \geq k+2$ . Comparing (4) with (5),  $t = |N(C_3)| = n+2k-5$ , where  $C_3$  is any 3-cycle in  $S_{n,k}$  since  $S_{n,k}$  is vertex-transitive. Let  $F = N(C_3)$ . Then  $|F| = t$  and  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $S_{n,k}$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $S_{n,k}$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

- (a) If  $|F| \leq t-1$  then, by Lemma 3.9,  $S_{n,k} - F$  has a large component and small components which contain at most two vertices in total.
- (b) Since  $S_{n,k}$  is  $(n-1)$ -regular and contains no 5-cycle  $C_5$ , by Lemma 3.8,  $\ell(S_{n,k}) = 1$ , and so  $n-1 \geq 4 = 2\ell(S_{n,k}) + 2$ .
- (c) It is not difficult to check that

$$\begin{aligned} |V| - [n(t-1) + 4] &= |V| - n(n+2k-6) - 4 \\ &\geq |V| - n(3n-10) - 4 \quad (\text{for } k \leq n-2) \\ &\geq |V| - 3n(n-3) \quad (\text{for } n \geq 5) \\ &\geq n(n-1)(n-2) - 3n(n-3) \\ &> 3n(n-3) - 3n(n-3) \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

$S_{n,k}$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(S_{n,k}) = n+2k-5 = \kappa_2(S_{n,k})$ . The theorem follows. ■

Since  $S_{n,n-2} \cong AN_n$ , by Theorem 3.10, we immediately obtain the following results.

**Corollary 3.11**  $t_c(AN_n) = 3n - 9 = \kappa_2(AN_n)$  for  $n \geq 5$ .

### 3.5 Transposition Graphs

Let  $\mathcal{T}_n$  be a set of transpositions from  $\Omega_n$  and  $S \subseteq \mathcal{T}_n$ . The graph  $T_S$  with vertex-set  $I_n$  and edge-set  $\{ij : (i,j) \in S\}$  is called the *transposition generating graph* or simply *transposition graph*. The Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  on  $\Omega_n$  with respect to  $S$  has  $n!$  vertices.

For example, if  $S = \{(1,i) : 2 \leq i \leq n\}$ , then  $T_S$  is a star  $K_{1,n-1}$ , the corresponding Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  is a star graph  $S_n$ , proposed by Akers and Krishnamurthy [1], perhaps, this is why they called such a graph for the star graph.

Here is another example, if  $S = \{(i,i+1) : 1 \leq i \leq n-1\}$ , then  $T_S$  is an  $n$ -path  $P_n$ , the corresponding Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  is called a bubble-sort graph  $B_n$ , proposed by Akers and Krisnamurthy [1] in 1989. This series of transpositions looks like to be along a straight line on the bubbles. Perhaps this is why Akers and Krisnamurthy called such a graph for the bubble-sort graph. Figure 9 shows the bubble-sort graphs  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$  and  $B_4$ .

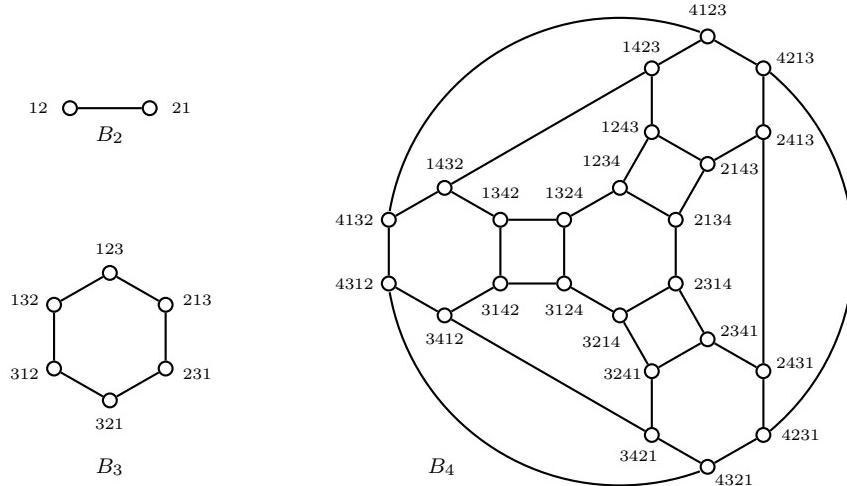


Figure 9: The bubble-sort graphs  $B_2$ ,  $B_3$  and  $B_4$ .

It is a well-known result, due to Polya (see Berge [4], p118)), that a set  $S \subseteq \mathcal{T}_n$

with  $|S| = (n - 1)$  generates  $\Omega_n$  if and only if the transposition graph  $T_S$  is a tree, called a *transposition tree*.

Thus, one is interested in such a Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  obtained from a transposition generating tree  $T_S$ , denoted by  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  shortly. The Cayley graph  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is a bipartite graph since a transposition changes the parity of a permutation, each edge connects an odd permutation with an even permutation.

As we have seen from the above examples,  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is a star graph  $S_n$  if  $T_S \cong K_{1,n-1}$ , and a bubble-sort graph  $B_n$  if  $T_S \cong P_n$ . Thus, the star graph  $S_n$  and the bubble-sort graph  $B_n$  are special cases of the Cayley graph  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$ .

Since when  $T_S \cong K_{1,n-1}$ ,  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is a star graph  $S_n$ . To avoid duplication of discussion, we may assume that  $T_S$  is not a star  $K_{1,n-1}$  in the following discussion.

Under this assumption, when  $n \geq 4$ , Lin *et al.* [33] determined  $t_c(\mathcal{T}_n(S)) = 3n - 8$ , Yang *et al.* [44] determined  $\kappa_2(\mathcal{T}_n(S)) = 3n - 8$ . We can deduce these results for  $n \geq 7$  by Theorem 2.4.

According to the recursive architecture of  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$ , we easily obtain the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.12** *For any  $x, y \in V(\mathcal{T}_n(S))$ , if  $xy \notin E(\mathcal{T}_n(S))$  and  $N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = 1$  if  $\mathcal{T}_n(S) = S_n$ , and  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| \leq 2$  otherwise.*

**Lemma 3.13** (Cheng and Lipták [5]) *For  $n \geq 5$ , if  $T \subset V(\mathcal{T}_n(S))$  is a vertex-cut with  $|T| \leq 3n - 8$ , then  $\mathcal{T}_n(S) - T$  contains either two components, one of which is an isolated vertex or an isolated edge, or three components, two of which are both isolated vertices.*

**Theorem 3.14**  $t_c(\mathcal{T}_n(S)) = 3n - 8 = \kappa_2(\mathcal{T}_n(S))$  for  $n \geq 7$ .

**Proof.** Since  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is a partite graph, it contains no  $C_3$ , and so  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T \text{ is a } 3\text{-path or a } 3\text{-cycle in } \mathcal{T}_n(S)\} = |N(P_3)|$ , where  $P_3$  is any 3-path in  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  since  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is vertex-transitive. When  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is not a star graph, it contains  $C_4$ , and so  $t = |N(P_3)| = 3(n - 1) - 1 - 4 = 3n - 8$ . Let  $F = N(P_3)$ . It is easy to check that  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

(a) If  $|F| \leq t - 1$  then, by Lemma 3.13,  $\mathcal{T}_n(S) - F$  has a large component and small components have at most two vertices in total.

(b) By Lemma 3.12, if  $\mathcal{T}_n(S) \neq S_n$ , then  $\ell(\mathcal{T}_n(S)) = 2$ . Since  $\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  is a bipartite graph, it contains no 5-cycle  $C_5$ . It follows that  $n - 1 \geq 6 = 2\ell(A_{n,k}) + 2$ .

(c) It is easy to check that  $n! - [n(t - 1) + 4] > 0$ .

$\mathcal{T}_n(S)$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(\mathcal{T}_n(S)) = 3n - 8 = \kappa_2(\mathcal{T}_n(S))$ .  $\blacksquare$

Since when  $T_S \cong P_n$  the Cayley graph  $C_{\Omega_n}(S)$  is a bubble-sort graph  $B_n$ , by Theorem 3.14, we immediately obtain the following result.

**Corollary 3.15**  $t_c(B_n) = 3n - 8 = \kappa_2(B_n)$  for  $n \geq 7$ .

### 3.6 $k$ -ary $n$ -cube Networks

We first introduce the Cartesian product of graphs.

Let  $G_1 = (V_1, E_1)$  and  $G_2 = (V_2, E_2)$  be two undirected graphs. The *Cartesian product* of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is an undirected graph, denoted by  $G_1 \times G_2$ , where  $V(G_1 \times G_2) = V_1 \times V_2$ , two distinct vertices  $x_1x_2$  and  $y_1y_2$ , where  $x_1, y_1 \in V(G_1)$  and  $x_2, y_2 \in V(G_2)$ , are linked by an edge in  $G_1 \times G_2$  if and only if either  $x_1 = y_1$  and  $x_2y_2 \in E(G_2)$ , or  $x_2 = y_2$  and  $x_1y_1 \in E(G_1)$ .

Examples of the Cartesian product are shown in Figure 10, where  $Q_1 = K_2$ ,  $Q_i = K_2 \times Q_{i-1}$  for  $i = 2, 3, 4$ .

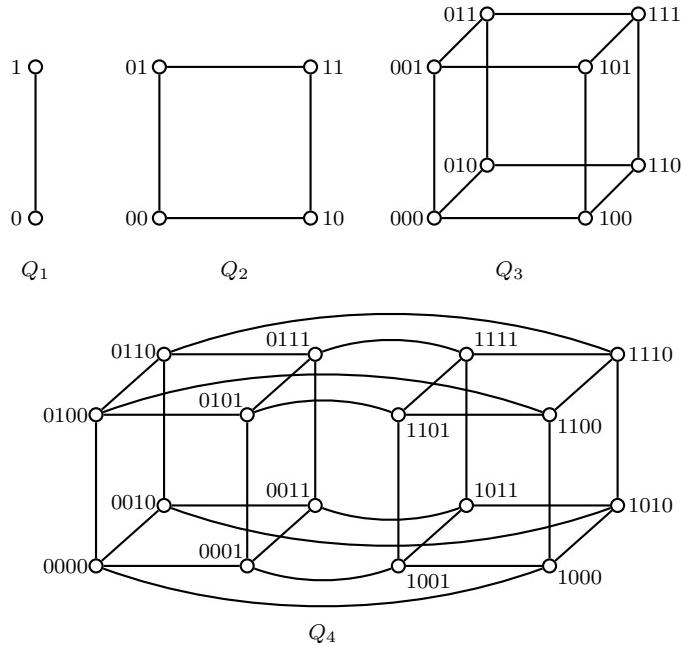


Figure 10: The hypercubes  $Q_n$ , where  $Q_1 = K_2$ ,  $Q_i = K_2 \times Q_{i-1}$  for  $i = 2, 3, 4$

As an operation of graphs, the Cartesian products satisfy commutative and associative laws if we identify isomorphic graphs. Thus, we can define the Cartesian

product  $G_1 \times G_2 \times \cdots \times G_n$ . There is an edge between a vertex  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_n$  and another  $y_1y_2 \cdots y_n$  if and only if they differ exactly in the  $i$ th coordinate and  $x_iy_i \in E(G_i)$ .

The Cartesian product  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2 \times \cdots \times \Gamma_n = (X, \circ)$  of  $n$  finite groups  $\Gamma_i = (X_i, \circ_i)$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $X = X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_n$ . The operation  $\circ$  is defined as follows

$$(x_1x_2 \cdots x_n) \circ (y_1y_2 \cdots y_n) = (x_1 \circ_1 y_1)(x_2 \circ_2 y_2) \cdots (x_n \circ_n y_n),$$

where  $x_i, y_i \in X_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ). For  $x_1x_2 \cdots x_n \in \Gamma$ , its inverse  $(x_1x_2 \cdots x_n)^{-1} = x_1^{-1}x_2^{-1} \cdots x_n^{-1}$ , the identity  $e = e_1e_2 \cdots e_n$ , where  $x_i^{-1}$  is the inverse of  $x_i$  in  $\Gamma_i$ ,  $e_i$  is the identity in  $\Gamma_i$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

For example, consider  $Z_4 \times Z_2 = \{00, 10, 20, 30, 01, 11, 21, 31\}$ . For any  $x_1x_2, y_1y_2 \in Z_4 \times Z_2$ ,  $x_1, y_1 \in Z_4$ ,  $x_2, y_2 \in Z_2$ , definite the operation:

$$(x_1x_2) \circ (y_1y_2) = (x_1 + y_1)(\text{mod } 4)(x_2 + y_2)(\text{mod } 2).$$

It is easy to verify that under the above operation,  $Z_4 \times Z_2$  forms a group, the identity is 00.

Consider the additive group  $Z_k$  ( $k \geq 2$ ) of residue classes modulo  $k$ , that is the ring group with order  $k$ , zero is the identity, the inverse of  $i$  is  $k - i$ . If  $S = \{1\}$ , then  $S^{-1} = S$  for  $k = 2$ ; and  $S^{-1} \neq S$  otherwise. Thus the Cayley graph  $C_{Z_2}(\{1\}) = K_2$ , the Cayley graph  $C_{Z_k}(\{1, k - 1\})$  is a cycle  $C_k$  if  $k \geq 3$ .

**Lemma 3.16** [42] *The Cartesian product of Cayley graphs is a Cayley graph. More precisely speaking, let  $G_i = C_{\Gamma_i}(S_i)$  be a Cayley graph of a finite group  $\Gamma_i$  with respect to a subset  $S_i$ , then  $G = G_1 \times G_2 \times \cdots \times G_n$  is a Cayley graph  $C_{\Gamma}(S)$  of the group  $\Gamma = \Gamma_1 \times \Gamma_2 \times \cdots \times \Gamma_n$  with respect to the subset*

$$S = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{e_1 \cdots e_{i-1}\} \times S_i \times \{e_{i+1} \cdots e_n\},$$

where  $e_i$  is the identity of  $\Gamma_i$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

Let  $\Gamma$  be the Cartesian product of  $n$  ( $\geq 2$ ) additive groups  $Z_k$ , i.e.,  $\Gamma = Z_k \times Z_k \times \cdots \times Z_k$ , and let

$$S = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{e_1 \cdots e_{i-1}\} \times S_i \times \{e_{i+1} \cdots e_n\},$$

where  $e_i = 0$  and  $S_i = \{1, k - 1\}$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . By Lemma 3.16,  $C_{\Gamma}(S)$  is a Cayley graph. For example, let  $k = 2$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} S &= \bigcup_{i=1}^n \{e_1 \cdots e_{i-1}\} \times S_i \times \{e_{i+1} \cdots e_n\} \\ &= \{100 \cdots 00, 010 \cdots 00, \dots, 000 \cdots 01\}, \end{aligned}$$

where  $S_i = \{1\}$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . The Cayley graph  $C_\Gamma(S) = \underbrace{K_2 \times K_2 \times \cdots \times K_2}_n$  is the well-known hypercube  $Q_n$ .

When  $k \geq 3$ , the Cayley graph  $C_\Gamma(S) = \underbrace{C_k \times C_k \times \cdots \times C_k}_n$  is called the  $k$ -ary  $n$ -cube, first studied by Dally [11] and denoted by  $Q_n^k$  (also see Xu [42]), which is an  $2n$ -regular graph with  $k^n$  vertices and  $n k^n$  edges.

**Lemma 3.17** [19, 26] *For any  $x, y \in V(Q_n^k)$ ,  $k \geq 2$ ,*

$$|N(x) \cap N(y)| = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } xy \in E(Q_n^k) \text{ and } k = 3; \\ 2 & \text{if } xy \notin E(Q_n^k) \text{ and } N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset; \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 3.18** [18, 19, 25] *Let  $F$  be a vertex-cut of  $Q_n^k$  ( $n \geq 5$ ) with*

$$|F| \leq \begin{cases} 6n - 6 & \text{if } k \geq 4; \\ 6n - 8 & \text{if } k = 3; \\ 3n - 6 & \text{if } k = 2. \end{cases}$$

*Then  $Q_n^k - F$  has a large component and small components have at most two vertices in total.*

Xu *et al.* [43] determined  $\kappa_2(Q_n^2) = 3n - 5$  for  $n \geq 4$ . Zhao and Jin [46] determined  $\kappa_2(Q_n^3) = 6n - 7$  for  $n \geq 3$ . Hsieh *et al.* [23] determined  $\kappa_2(Q_n^k) = 6n - 5$  for  $k \geq 4$  and  $n \geq 5$ . Hsu *et al.* [25] proved  $t_c(Q_n^2) = 3n - 5$  for  $n \geq 5$ . By Theorem 2.4, we immediately obtain the following result which contains the above results.

**Theorem 3.19** *For  $n \geq 8$  if  $k = 5$  and  $n \geq 6$  otherwise,  $t_c(Q_n^k) = t = \kappa_2(Q_n^k)$ , where*

$$t = \begin{cases} 6n - 5 & \text{if } k \geq 4; \\ 6n - 7 & \text{if } k = 3; \\ 3n - 5 & \text{if } k = 2. \end{cases}$$

**Proof.** Note that  $Q_n^k$  is  $n$ -regular for  $k = 2$ , and  $2n$ -regular for  $k \geq 3$ , and  $Q_n^k$  contains  $C_3$  if and only if  $k = 3$  and contains  $C_5$  if and only if  $k = 5$ . By Lemma 3.17, it is easy to verify that  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T = P_3 \text{ or } C_3 \text{ in } Q_n^k\} = |N(P_3)|$ , where  $P_3$  is any 3-path in  $Q_n^k$  since  $Q_n^k$  is vertex-transitive.

Let  $F = N(P_3)$ . Then  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $Q_n^k$  and  $|F| = t$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $Q_n^k$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

(a) If  $|F| \leq t - 1$ , then by Lemma 3.18,  $Q_n^k - H$  has a large component and small components has at most two vertices in total.

(b) By Lemma 3.17,  $n \geq 3\ell(Q_n^k) + 2 = 8$  if  $k = 5$ , and  $n \geq 2\ell(Q_n^k) + 2 = 6$  otherwise.

(c) For  $n \geq 8$ , it is easy to verify that

$$|V(Q_n^k)| - (\Delta + 1)(t - 1) - 4 = \begin{cases} 2^n - (n+1)(3n-6) - 4 > 0 & \text{if } k = 2; \\ 3^n - (2n+1)(6n-8) - 4 > 0 & \text{if } k = 3; \\ k^n - (2n+1)(6n-6) - 4 > 0 & \text{if } k \geq 4. \end{cases}$$

Thus,  $Q_n^k$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(Q_n^k) = t = \kappa_2(Q_n^k)$  for  $n \geq 8$  if  $k = 5$  and  $n \geq 6$  otherwise.  $\blacksquare$

**Corollary 3.20**  $t_c(Q_n^2) = 3n - 5 = \kappa_2(Q_n^2)$  and  $t_c(Q_n^3) = 6n - 7 = \kappa_2(Q_n^3)$  for  $n \geq 6$

### 3.7 Dual-Cubes

A dual-cube  $DC_n$ , proposed by Li and Peng [37], consists of  $2^{2n+1}$  vertices, and each vertex is labeled with a unique  $(2n+1)$ -bits binary string and has  $n+1$  neighbors. There is a link between two nodes  $u = u_{2n}u_{2n-1}\dots u_0$  and  $v = v_{2n}v_{2n-1}\dots v_0$  if and only if  $u$  and  $v$  differ exactly in one bit position  $i$  under the following conditions:

- (a) if  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ , then  $u_{2n} = v_{2n} = 0$ ; and
- (b) if  $n \leq i \leq 2n-1$ , then  $u_{2n} = v_{2n} = 1$ .

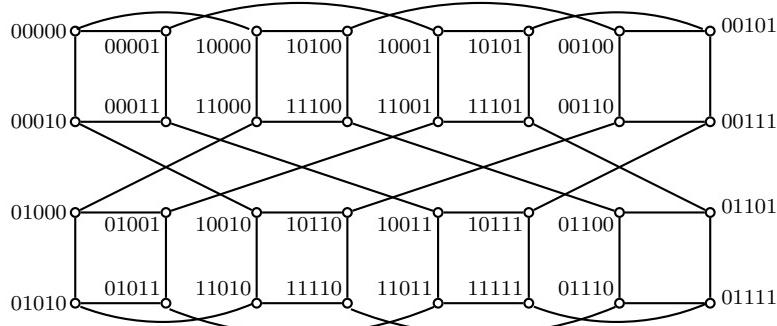


Figure 11: The dual-cube  $DC_2$

Figure 11 shows the bubble-sort graphs  $DC_2$ . A dual-cube  $DC_n$  is an  $(n+1)$ -regular bipartite graph of order  $2^{2n+1}$ . Moreover, Zhou *et al.* [49] showed that  $DC_n$  is a Cayley graph, and so  $DC_n$  is vertex-transitive.

**Lemma 3.21** (Zhou *et al.* [49]) *For any  $x, y \in V(DC_n)$ , if  $xy \notin E(DC_n)$  and  $N(x) \cap N(y) \neq \emptyset$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| \leq 2$ .*

Since  $DC_n$  is an  $(n+1)$ -regular bipartite graph, and so it contains no  $C_3$ , according to Lemma 3.21, if  $P_3 = (x, y, z)$  is a 3-path, where  $xz \notin E(G)$ , then  $|N(x) \cap N(y)| = |N(y) \cap N(z)| = 0$  and  $|N(x) \cap N(z)| \leq 2$ , and so the number of neighbors of  $P_3$  in  $DC_n$  can be counted as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} |N(P_3)| &= d(x) + d(y) + d(z) - |N(x) \cap N(z)| - \Sigma(P_3) \\ &= 3(n+1) - |N(x) \cap N(z)| - 4 \\ &= \begin{cases} 3n-1 & \text{if } |N(x) \cap N(z)| = 1; \\ 3n-2 & \text{if } |N(x) \cap N(z)| = 2. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $DC_n$  is vertex-transitive, for any 3-path  $P_3$  in  $DC_n$  that  $|N(P_3)|$  is the smallest, we have that

$$|N(P_3)| = 3n-2. \quad (6)$$

**Lemma 3.22** (Zhou *et al.* [49]) *Let  $F \subset V(DC_n)$  with  $|F| \leq 3n-3$  and  $n \geq 3$ . If  $DC_n - F$  is disconnected, then it has either two components, one of which is an isolated vertex or an edge, or three components, two of which are isolated vertices.*

Zhou *et al.* [49] determined  $\kappa_2(DC_n) = 3n-2$  and  $t_c(DC_n) = 3n-2$  for  $n \geq 3$ , dependently. By Theorem 2.4, we immediately obtain the following result which contains the above results.

**Theorem 3.23**  $t_c(DC_n) = 3n-2 = \kappa_2(DC_n)$  for  $n \geq 5$ .

**Proof.** Since  $DC_n$  contains no  $C_3$ ,  $t = \min\{|N(T)| : T = P_3 \text{ or } C_3 \text{ in } DC_n\} = |N(P_3)|$ , where  $P_3$  is any 3-path in  $DC_n$  since  $DC_n$  is vertex-transitive. Let  $F = N(P_3)$ . Then  $|F| = t = 3n-2$  by (6). It is easy to check that  $F$  is a vertex-cut of  $DC_n$ . To prove the theorem, we only need to verify that  $DC_n$  satisfies conditions in Theorem 2.4.

- (a) If  $|F| \leq t-1$  then, by Lemma 3.22,  $DC_n - F$  has a large component and small components which contain at most two vertices in total.
- (b) By Lemma 3.21,  $\ell(DC_n) = 2$ . Since  $DC_n$  is  $(n+1)$ -regular bipartite, it contains no 5-cycle, and so  $n+1 \geq 6 = 2\ell(DC_n) + 2$ .
- (c) It is easy to check that  $2^{2n+1} - (n+2)(t-1) - 4 = 2^{2n+1} - (n+2)(3n-3) - 4 > 0$  for  $n \geq 5$ .

$DC_n$  satisfies all conditions in Theorem 2.4, and so  $t_c(DC_n) = 3n-2 = \kappa_2(DC_n)$ . The theorem follows. ■

## 4 Conclusions

The conditional diagnosability  $t_c(G)$  under the comparison model and the 2-extra connectivity  $\kappa_2(G)$  are two important parameters to measure ability of diagnosing faulty processors and fault-tolerance in a multiprocessor system  $G$  with the presence of failing processors. Although these two parameters have attracted considerable attention and determined for many classes of well-known graphs in recent years, but are obtained independently. This paper establishes the close relationship between these two parameters by proving  $t_c(G) = \kappa_2(G)$  for a regular graph  $G$  with some acceptable conditions. As applications, the conditional diagnosability and the 2-extra connectivity are determined for some well-known classes of vertex-transitive graphs such as star graphs,  $(n, k)$ -star graphs,  $(n, k)$ -arrangement graphs, Cayley graphs obtained from transposition generating trees,  $k$ -ary  $n$ -cube networks and dual-cubes. Furthermore, many known results about these networks are obtained directly.

Under the comparison diagnosis model, the diagnosability and the 1-extra connectivity should have some relationships. On the other hand, in addition to the comparison diagnosis model, there are several other diagnosis models such as the PMC model. Under the PMC model, what is the relationship between the diagnosability or the conditional diagnosability and the  $h$ -extra connectivity for some  $h$ ? These will be explored in future.

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